## **News Release**



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## FORMER NASA EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY

On April 19, 2000, Douglas John Willowby, a former Marshall Space Flight Center employee, pled guilty in U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama to two counts of possession of child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A (a)(5)(B) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A (a)(2)(A). Sentencing is scheduled for June 23, 2000.

The investigation disclosed that Willowby downloaded and saved several hundred images of child pornography to his personal computer. Willowby then transferred the images to a NASA-owned computer, floppy disks, Compact disks, and Zip disks while at his NASA office. Willowby admitted to downloading child pornography since 1998, and admitted to viewing the images while at work.

This investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the NASA Office of Inspector General, Office of Criminal Investigations, the Alabama Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney James E. Phillips, Northern District of Alabama is handling the prosecution of this matter.

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